

Application No.: 10/762721
Docket No.: SS2910USCNT1

Page 2

Amendments to Specification

Please amend the specification as follows.

Page 2, replace the paragraph at lines 1-12 with the following paragraph:

Other technologies that compete in the medical field include composite or laminated products. The composite provides a balance of properties suitable for the end use. One competitive technology is generally called "SMS" in the industry for Spunbond/Meltblown/Spunbond. The basic SMS nonwoven material is described in US Patent 4,041,203 with further improvements described in US Patents 4,374,888 and 4,041,203. The spunbond outer layers are comprised of spunbond nonwoven which provides strength but is not able to attain the barrier properties of the meltblown inner layer. The technology for making meltblown fibers is swell well suited to making fine low denier fibers which are able to have barrier and breathability but is not suited to obtaining suitable strength to withstand use as a garment.

Page 16, replace the paragraph beginning at line 29, bridging to page 17, line 7, with the following paragraph:

A polymer having a lower melt point or melting temperature may be used as the sheath to so as to be amenable to melting during bonding while the core polymer does not soften. One very interesting example is a sheath core arrangement using 2GT polyester as the core and 3GT polyester as the sheath. Such an arrangement would be suited for radiation sterilization such as e-beam and gamma ray sterilization without degradation. Other combinations of multi-component fibers and blends of fibers may be envisioned. Various polymers present challenges and opportunities. The sheet material of the present invention may comprise polyester (such as polyethylene ~~teraphthalate~~ terephthalate, polypropylene ~~teraphthalate~~ terephthalate, and polybutylene ~~teraphthalate~~ terephthalate) combinations and blends of polyester, nylon, a polyolefin such as polyethylene and polypropylene, and even elastomeric polymers.